

1.9/13
F38053

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
EXTENSION SERVICE
Washington 25, D. C.

SOME STATEMENTS ON 4-H CLUB WORK

BY

THE NATION'S LEADERS

-oooOooo-

To All 4-H Club Members in the United States:

This year the Nation again reviews with pride the war services of its 1,700,000 4-H Club members. Wherever you 4-H members live and work and share responsibilities, there is convincing evidence of your efforts in achieving your seven wartime goals. Nowhere are these services more appreciated than among our fighting forces.

Final victory of our armed forces is still to be attained. Your efforts must be carried forward with even more momentum in 1945. To this end may National 4-H Club Week, March 3 to 11, result in a re-dedication by all 4-H Club members of their heads, hearts, hands, and health to fullhearted endeavor in all that makes for victory. Such re-dedication is significant, especially in this crucial war year 1945.

Here, in a free country, you are accustomed to take your inspiring pledge, of your own choosing, knowing that it stands for ideals that have made you and your country strong. In great contrast stands the blind vow of allegiance which youth in enemy countries are forced to give to a way of life that leads only to human suffering and death.

The degree to which we can make victory last and build an enduring peace will depend upon our loyalty to the ideals we hold. We proudly believe that when the cause of democracy finally wins history will record that American youth played a decisive role.

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

During the last quarter of a century I have followed with growing satisfaction the work of the 4-H Clubs. This great rural youth organization is doing a work which is laying the foundation for a better and more enjoyable farm life in America. It not only trains rural youth in agriculture and homemaking skills, but through its club meetings and programs gives training in cooperative effort and self development. It emphasizes the constructive and best in all rural life.

Through the organization's food production and preservation programs, its emphasis on home and character building, it serves the nation constructively both in war and peace.

March 3 to 11 has been designated by the state agricultural colleges and the War Food Administration as 4-H Club Week. It is my sincere hope that during this period the membership and 4-H work may be enlarged and strengthened for the year ahead.

- James F. Byrnes,
Director of War Mobilization
and Reconversion.

I believe thoroughly in the 4-H Clubs. As a farm paper publisher I gave them my enthusiastic support. My children were members when they were growing up on the farm in Dutchess County, New York. The clubs have done and continue to do a great educational and patriotic service, and are among the fine constructive forces of our Nation.

- Henry Morgenthau,
Secretary of the Treasury.

The 1,700,000 4-H Club members of our rural counties are rendering a great service to their country in their contributions toward helping meet the food goals for 1945.

I want them to know that we in the War Food Administration appreciate the tremendous amount of help they have given: The production of livestock, crops, gardens, home canning, and the many other war jobs they have done on their farms and in their homes.

In this critical year 1945, it is more than ever important that 4-H Club members, along with other farm boys and girls, continue their contribution to the war program.

- Marvin Jones,
War Food Administrator.

Members of the nation's 4-H Clubs have made significant contributions during each of the trying years of World War II. In addition to their important help in meeting the nation's food goals, they have given real patriotic leadership in other war programs, such as bond sales and scrap collections.

The nation will continue to look to the members of the 4-H Clubs for the fine qualities of leadership in their communities throughout the war and in the days of reconstruction and peace.

- Claude R. Wickard,
Secretary of Agriculture.

44880
811

It is indeed a pleasure for those of us concerned with the construction and operation of merchant ships which supply the United Nations war effort to again send greetings to you during National 4-H Club Week.

During the past year 4-H Club members in 42 States gave us the names of outstanding agricultural leaders of the United States. The ships so named have carried food grown by 4-H Club members and the farm families of the United States to the far corners of the earth. We only wish we could tell you where they have been.

We know that 4-H Club members throughout this land will continue to back our fighting men. We know you will continue to produce and conserve food so that our fighting men and our allies may soon bring an end to this war.

Four-H Club members know and value our way of life. They know that it is worth fighting for. We of the Maritime Commission and War Shipping Administration are proud of our association with you. Together with the people of this Nation and the United Nations, we will move forward to victory.

- E. S. Land, Chairman,
United States Maritime Commission.

It is a pleasure again to extend greetings and best wishes to the 1,700,000 members of the 4-H Clubs of America upon the observance of National 4-H Club Week. Upon behalf of the Army, we of the Quartermaster Corps thank you for your aid during 1944 to your country and to its service men and women. We are particularly appreciative of your determination toward continued service during 1945, in which the needs for food and fiber crops will be greater than ever before.

Yours has been a major contribution to the comfort and safety of our fighting forces in all theaters of operations. Food and fiber are ammunition to destroy the Axis. That our men in the services have used that ammunition wisely and well is attested by their victories in both the West and the East. Each of you has had a part in making these victories possible.

This year is destined to be one of the most important in history and will demand the utmost from each one of us. Your past efforts and devotion to duty have inspired full confidence that you will again acquit yourselves creditably and in a way that will uphold the high principles of the 4-H Clubs. In this acquittal, you will be making a definite contribution not only toward a quicker victory but toward a finer nation in the years to come.

- E. B. Gregory,
Major General, The Quartermaster General.

As a former 4-H Club member I am very proud of the boys and girls of rural America, not only for their help in the miracle of production which our farmers have achieved during the war but for the splendid example they are giving to the rural youth of war-torn Europe. Already 4-H Clubs have been started in Norway, Sweden, Denmark and other countries of northern Europe. Clubs can help bring the blessings of peace to individual families and communities. Our warmest congratulations go to the 4-H Clubs of America for the high standard they have aimed at, reached, and surpassed.

- Roy F. Hendrickson,
Deputy Director General,
United Nations Relief and Re-
habilitation Administration.

It is too early to tell whether 1945 will be the year of Victory. What really matters is that all of us are united in our determination to make it so.

So far in this war American youth has given a significant display of courage which is based on ideals as well as on physical strength and ingenuity. Among our fighting forces are more than 800,000 former 4-H Club members, giving an excellent account of their adherence to our watch-words, "Head, Heart, Hands, and Health." Not all have become world-famous as has Major Richard I. Bong, Pacific ace and a former 4-H Club member from Poplar, Wis. But, I am sure, all are doing their part, with equal steadfastness and loyalty.

Here is an important thought to keep in mind. This year the military services will take many 4-H Club members who, at the time of Pearl Harbor, had just begun their 4-H Club career. They were 15 then. They are 18 now. They are leaving only because their country needs them. They will depend on their younger brothers and sisters and cousins and friends to carry on.

It is because we cannot slacken on the home front that I feel every rural boy and girl between 10 and 21 should become a 4-H member in this year, 1945. All will be needed for the vital jobs of food production; for "feed-a-fighter" projects; for Victory gardening; for many other 4-H projects that make our Nation productive at home so that Victory can come abroad at the earliest possible moment. In addition to doing these things, 4-H Club work helps develop the ideals of head, heart, hands, and health which will be needed to win the peace as well as Victory in the war.

I hope that all who are members of 4-H Clubs will make a real effort to enroll all eligible boys and girls in their own neighborhood in 1945 as well as do everything possible to increase their own efforts to help win the war.

- M. L. Wilson,
Director of Extension Work.

4-H Club work is a kind of training in which rural youth learns better ways of farming and homemaking, better ways of working together in groups and on community matters, better ways of living. It recognizes the basic educational values of farm life. It puts the emphasis on self-reliance, character and an appreciation of the things of the open country. It makes for good homes, good citizens and a cultured rural life.

- Dr. C. B. Smith,
Formerly Chief, Office of
Cooperative Extension.

It is with a feeling of genuine pride that we review at this time of the year the accomplishments of the 1,700,000 4-H Club members. They have demonstrated in a magnificent way what rural boys and girls can do voluntarily when inspired and guided in carrying out their part in meeting the war demands of the nation. National 4-H Club Week provides a wonderful opportunity to give them due recognition. Let us see to it that 4-H Club members everywhere are made to feel that their part in the war effort really counts, and that we deeply appreciate the self-reliance, integrity, and efficiency they are developing, which make of them a prize asset to the nation.

- H. W. Hochbaum, Chief,
Division of Field Coordination,
Extension Service.

